

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim for foreign priority and receipt of the certified priority document.

The Examiner has requested that Applicants' positively affirm their telephonic election of claims 1-9 for examination. Applicants affirm the election of claims 1-9.

The Examiner has stated that Figures 1, 2, and 9 should be designated as "Prior Art." Applicants respectfully note that the specification identifies the drawings as related art.

Rejection of the Claims:

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pernet (U.S. Patent No. 6,422,469). Pernet is related to a chip card reader which includes a housing consisting of a base (4) and a cover (12). A universal USB socket is included which is "snapped" at the end of the housing. The reader is characterized in that it includes a linearly moving slide unit (14) which is designed to transport the chip card (2) from the outside into the housing to connect the conductive segments of the card (2) to the electric contacts of the socket (10).

Independent Claim 1 recites:

A card type USB connector, comprising:

a card type plug having a plug body and a plurality of pins on a top of the plug body;

a card type receptacle having a receptacle body receiving the card type plug therein, and a plurality of pins inside the receptacle body, the plurality of receptacle pins being disposed in correspondence to the plurality of pins of the card type plug so as to be electrically connected, wherein the plurality of pins of the card type plug and the plurality of pins of the card type receptacle are electrically turned on or off according to contact of the plug body to the receptacle body or detachment of the plug body from the receptacle body.

The grounds of rejection state that the claimed card type plug is shown as the memory card 2 of Pernet, and the card type receptacle is shown as item 6 (insulating frame 6) of Figure 2 of Pernet. The grounds of rejection further state that it is inherent that the pins in the plug would not be powered on until contact is made with the receptacle as memory cards of the kind disclosed in Pernet require external power to function.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. In particular, as shown in Figure 2, the Pernet chip card reader is quite different than the present invention. First, the USB connector is snapped at the end of the housing, and is not the primary focus of the Pernet invention. As a result, there is no disclosure or suggestion as to the plurality of pins of the card type receptacle (item 6) being electrically turned on or off according to contact of the plug body to the receptacle body or detachment of the plug body from the receptacle body. In other words, one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that electrical connection is only made when the USB connector is attached to a device.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of claim 3. Claim 3 recites a card type plug with guide projections on side of the plug body, as well as a receptacle body with holes corresponding

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to the guide projections. The grounds of rejection cite items 30, 32, 34, 36, and 38 as the projections. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to Figure 5 where the alleged “guide projections” are part of a moving slide unit 14 which would not be mistaken as the claimed card type plug.

Claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the January 2002 product listing of the Ratoc USB 2.0 PCMCIA PC Card. Applicants note that the PCMCIA Card of Ratoc is not a gender changer. To further define the invention, Applicants have amended claim 7 to recite the card type plug as a USB plug.

As shown in Figure 6, and discussed at paragraph [49], the card of claim 7 is a card type USB plug. A card type USB plug is not suggested by the Ratoc PC Card. A similar amendment has been made to claim 4 to identify the receptacle as a USB receptacle.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald Kimble
Registration No. 44,186

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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